



Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority

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NAIPTA Receives Nearly \$4 Million in Grant Funding for New Vehicles

FLAGSTAFF, AZ (September 14, 2012) – NAIPTA will have 12 new vehicles on the road in the next 24 months thanks to federal and state grant funding that will allow the agency to purchase seven new Mountain Line hybrid-electric buses and five new Mountain Lift paratransit vans.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded NAIPTA \$2,573,000 from its competitive Discretionary Grant Program for five new hybrid-electric Mountain Line buses. This additional fleet will enable NAIPTA to improve reliability and environmental quality by phasing out older, less efficient buses with ones that require less maintenance and have better emissions. NAIPTA will also be able to deliver on Proposition 405, one of the 2008 ballot initiatives, which called for more frequent bus service on key routes.

The FTA also awarded NAIPTA \$1,029,200 from its competitive Clean Fuels Grant program to replace two older diesel buses with new hybrid-electric buses. The FTA funded just 27 projects through this grant program, which helps transit agencies to accommodate cleaner, greener buses that reduce harmful emissions, improve fuel economy, and save on operating costs. NAIPTA was the only Arizona organization to receive a grant award, and one of only six selected projects in an "attainment area" as designated by the Environmental Protection Agency, which means the community meets or exceeds national air quality standards.

NAIPTA also received \$369,000 from the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for the replacement of five Mountain Lift paratransit vans. By replacing older vehicles, NAIPTA will save on maintenance and fuel, and Mountain Lift clients will feel the difference with a smoother ride. All new vans will be outfitted with security cameras and the standard Mountain Lift wrap and paint scheme, which will complete the transition and officially phase out the previously-branded VanGo vehicles. Mountain lift offers origin-to-destination paratransit service for persons who are disabled and unable to use Mountain Line.

"Grant funding is a key component of NAIPTA's overall budget and preparing successful grant applications allows us to purchase more reliable fleet, provide better service and deliver on the promises we made in the 2008 election," said NAIPTA General Manager Jeff Meilbeck. "Flagstaff has invested in Mountain Line, and in turn, the FTA has invested in Flagstaff."

All grants are at minimum an 80/20 split, with grant funding covering at least 80 percent of the cost of the new vehicles, and NAIPTA covering no more than the remaining 20 percent. All 12 of the new vehicles are expected to be delivered within the next 12-24 months.



Getting you where you want to go



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NAIPTA is the transit agency in northern Arizona operating the Mountain Line, Mountain Lift and Mountain Link systems in Flagstaff. NAIPTA also coordinates services with Campus Shuttle Service at Northern Arizona University. Visit www.naipta.az.gov for more information.



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